

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for routing a message relating to an entity between a second service[[s]] and a first service in a message routing network, the method comprising:

(a) before routing the message in the message routing network, associating an identifier with [[an]] the entity, the identifier provided by said message routing network responsive to authentication of the entity to the message routing network, the identifier indicating authentication of the entity to the message routing network;

(b) before routing the message in the message routing network, associating said identifier with an account of the entity at [[a]] the first service responsive to said entity being authenticated to the first service that supports said entity account, such that the identifier further indicates authentication of the entity to the entity account at the first service;

(c) receiving, from [[a]] the second service with which the entity has an account, a message including said identifier, said message being directed to a mapped service, wherein said mapped service is an entity account-specific representation of said first service and acts as a proxy for said first service, and wherein said mapped service is operable to determine whether a route for said message needs to be modified prior to delivering said message to said first service, and wherein the first and second services are controlled by different service providers that are each independent of the entity;

(d) ~~authenticating, by a receiver of said message,~~ a sender of said message by authenticating only said message routing network using said identifier included in said message; and

(e) when said message routing network is authenticated using said identifier and said mapped service determines that said route for said message does not need to be modified, translating, by said message routing network, said message for delivery to said first service, wherein said translated message includes said identifier and is directed from said mapped service to said first service.

2. (Original) The message routing method of claim 1, wherein said identifier is a message routing network ID.

3. (Original) The message routing method of claim 2, wherein said identifier is a message routing network ID for said mapped service.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously Presented) The message routing method of claim 1, wherein said translating comprises adding an identifier of said entity account to said message.

6. (Previously Presented) The message routing method of claim 1, wherein upon receipt of said translated message, said first service associates said identifier with said entity account based on a mapping internal to said first service.

7. (Original) The message routing method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a second message from said first service, said second message being directed to said mapped service.

8. (Original) The message routing method of claim 7, further comprising translating said second message for delivery to said second service.

9-14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently Amended) A message routing method, comprising:

(a) providing a proxy service for messages relating to an entity transferred between a first application service provider and a second application service provider in a message routing network, said first application service provider and said second application service provider providing application services, wherein the first and second application service providers are each independent of the entity;

(b) before routing the messages in the message routing network, associating an identifier with [[an]] the entity, the identifier provided by said message routing network responsive to authentication of the entity to the message routing network, the identifier indicating authentication of the entity to the message routing network;

(c) before routing the messages in the message routing network, associating said identifier with an account of the entity at said first application service provider responsive to said

entity being authenticated to said first application service provider, such that the identifier further indicates authentication of the entity to the entity account at said first application service provider;

(d) receiving, from said second application service provider, a message including said identifier, said message being directed to said proxy service, wherein said proxy service is an entity account-specific representation of said first application service provider;

(e) authenticating, ~~by a receiver of the message,~~ a sender of the message by only authenticating said message routing network using said identifier included in said message; and

(f) when said message routing network is authenticated using said identifier, translating, by said message routing network, said message for delivery to said first application service provider, wherein said translated message includes said identifier and is directed from said proxy service to said first application service provider.

16. (Original) The message routing method of claim 15, wherein said proxy service adds an account identifier to a message that is transmitted to said second application service provider.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for authenticating services participating in routing of a message in a message routing network, the method comprising:

before the routing of the message in the message routing network:

(a) authenticating an enterprise to the message routing network;

(b) associating an identifier with the enterprise, the identifier provided by the message routing network responsive to authentication of the enterprise to the message routing network, the identifier indicating authentication of the enterprise to the message routing network;

(c) authenticating the enterprise to a first service provider;

(d) associating the identifier with an account of the enterprise at the first service provider responsive to the enterprise being authenticated to the first service provider, such that the identifier further indicates authentication of the enterprise to the enterprise account at the first service provider;

such that when a message including said identifier is received by a second service provider from ~~a sender of the message~~ the first service provider, authentication of only said message routing network ~~by a receiver of said message~~ using the identifier included in the message provides authentication of the ~~sender of the message~~ first service provider, wherein the first and second service providers are each independent of the enterprise.

18-19. (Canceled).

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the identifier is a message routing network ID.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein authenticating the enterprise to a first service provider includes providing the identifier to the first service provider.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein authenticating the enterprise to a first service provider includes providing a provisioning token to the first service provider.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising:
providing a confirmation message to the message interchange network indicating authentication of the enterprise to the first service provider.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the confirmation message includes the identifier.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the confirmation message includes a provisioning token.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising:
designating a time period for receipt of the confirmation message, a provisioning token expiring after passage of the time period.